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795- The population of Soviet Armenia is
162- estimated to be close to 1,500,000 (1939
census, 1,280,000; 1947 estimate, 1,345,000).
Of this total a little more than 85 per cent are
Armenians, nearly all presumably in commun-
ion with the Armenian Apostolic Church.
There are some 130,000 Azerbaijani Turks of
the Shi'ite sect, and about 50,000 Kurds of the
Shafi'ite sect. In addition, there are several
thousand Yezidis (devil-worshippers), Nes-
torians, Russians and Georgians. No informa-
tion is available concerning these minor groups
and their religious institutions. Whatever
places of worship the Russians, Nestorians,
Georgians and Yezidis might have had prior to
the Russian Revolution, they certainly are not
in existence now.

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● 346 The more numerous Kurds perhaps did
have certain places of worship but none seem to
remain today; at least there is nothing to indi-
cate that they have such places. For the
Azerbaijani Turks there was an old imposing
and historic mosque in Erivan, a landmark in
the city for centuries. It was still there twenty
years ago, a relic of the old era. If still
intact, it may be used by the several thousand
Azerbaijanis of that city as well as by the Turks.
Judging by the old order or organization, the
titular spiritual head of the Azerbaijani Turks
in Soviet Armenia and his followers there owe al-
legiance to the Grand Mufty (or the Chief Imam)
in Baku. The Grand Mufty probably has his